



Informational Notes for EMDs and Local Officials

Bulletin #38 – Oct 17, 2003

Missouri HS Assessment & Hazard Mitigation Plan Clarification

Emergency Management Directors are being contacted by our office on homeland security assessments, and by contractors who are upgrading LEOP plans and drafting Hazard Mitigation.

Plans: There are two planning efforts in the works: 1. **Hazard Mitigation Plans**--being completed through contracts with Regional Planning Commissions. This process began during the winter of '02-'03.

2. **Local Emergency Operations Plans (LEOPs)**--funded through a FEMA Homeland Security Grant. The contractor is Louis Berger and Company. The focus is on 159 selected jurisdictions to update their LEOPs with an emphasis on the development of a workable and viable WMD Terrorism Annexes. The completion date is December 31, 2003.

Assessments: There are two assessment activities in the works: 1. **The State Homeland Security Assessment and Strategy Program (SHSA)**--This process is just beginning. The contractor is Tetra Tech Corporation. The process has started in the Regions A1 and C1, with workshops and the compilation of data. The process for the rest of the state was conducted Oct 7-9. The data provided will be used to identify our capabilities and develop our needs for the future. In addition, an agricultural assessment will also be conducted. Any Homeland Security grant funding that the State and jurisdictions receive in the FY-04 grant process is tied to this assessment process. Completion date to ODP for the State Strategy and Assessment process is December 31, 2003.

2. **State Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (SHSEEP)**--funded through the Office of Domestic Preparedness (ODP) and provided to the State of Missouri under the ODP Technical Assistance Program. The contractor is Titan Corporation. The same 159 jurisdictions that are updating their LEOPs with the planning process have received the survey paperwork from the contractor. The focus of this assessment is to review our WMD/Terrorism Exercise Program and to develop a recommended plan to conduct exercises using grant funds the state received in conjunction with the Fiscal Year '03 grant program. In addition, the direction recommended will be included as part of the SHSA assessment program mentioned in the 1st paragraph.

Thank you for your patience and participation in these vital projects. Please contact Jim Wakeman or Tom Mohr by email to clarify any confusion on these projects that may have been created. jwakeman@sema.state.mo.us or tmohr@sema.state.mo.us

SEMA Training Reimbursement Changes

SEMA Training Officer announces changes in the participant expense report process for SEMA training. As of November 1, 2003 all participants filing for reimbursement of expenses incurred during their participation in SEMA training will be required to submit receipts for all listed expenses. The standard for expense reimbursement will remain "actual and reasonable" expenses and do not include alcoholic beverages. For meal reimbursement other than the lunch meal participants must have traveled more than fifty (50) miles to participate in the course. Lodging will remain direct billed to SEMA whenever possible. Participant's mileage will remain a non-reimbursable expense.

Bills Would Reauthorize Tech Program, Enhance 911

Bills have been introduced in the U. S. Senate to reauthorize the National Telecommunications Information Administration (NTIA) and Enhanced 911. NTIA's Technology Opportunities Program, or TOP, would be reauthorized at a \$15.86 million level in FY 2004, climbing to \$17.85 million in FY 2008. The program supports public technology projects that improve community services, including public safety.

The Enhanced 911 Emergency Communications Act of 2003 (S. 1250) would authorize \$500 million annually in NTIA grants to states, cities and counties for improving 911 emergency systems. It would also establish an Emergency Communications Task Force to facilitate coordination between federal, state, and local emergency communications systems, emergency personnel, and public safety organizations. Preference would be for applicants who coordinate with their public safety answering points and integrate public and commercial communications services involved in the construction, delivery, and improvement of emergency communications, including 911 services. The bill calls for audits by the Federal Communications Commission to make sure 911 service fees are not diverted for other purposes.

U.S. House Eyes Mitigation and Earthquake Program Funding

The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee unanimously approved H.R. 3181. This legislation would provide a three-year reauthorization of the pre-disaster mitigation program, reinstatement of the 15 percent formula for the post-disaster Hazard Mitigation Program (HMGP), and a fix on the individual or household repair cap. The bill is now being prepared for House floor action.

The House approved legislation this week to reauthorize the National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program (NEHRP). H.R. 2608 would reauthorize the NEHRP for three more years and transfer the coordination of the program from FEMA to the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Four Missouri Fire Departments Receive Final Grant Rounds 162 Missouri Fire Departments Receive \$11.5M in FY 2002 Fire Grants

During FY'02, FEMA has given Fire Grants to 162 Missouri Fire Departments totaling \$11,455,162.

FEMA announced that four Missouri Fire Departments received Fire Grants in the final 2 rounds – 17 and 18 announcements. Those departments receiving grants for Fire Operations & Firefighter Safety were: Aurora Rural FD (\$181,383), and Edgerton FD (\$39,575). Departments receiving grants for Firefighting Vehicles were: Grundy County Rural FD (\$90,000), and Orrick FPD (\$116,550).

FEMA Announces Opening of Application Period for FY 2003 Fire Prevention and Safety Grants

Agency Will Award \$27.5 Million in Grants as Part of Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program

Michael D. Brown, Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Emergency Preparedness and Response, announced that the application period for the 2003 Fire Prevention and Safety Grants program is opening October 16, 2003. The online application (address: <https://portal.fema.gov>) will be accepting applications through November 14, 2003. The 2003 program, a part of the *2003 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program*, seeks to address the nation's fire problem, particularly the death and injury rates to young children, seniors and the firefighters called to respond to fires. This will be the third year of funding, and information regarding the 2003 Fire Prevention and Safety Grant opportunity is currently available at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fire-service/grants/2003grants/03-prev-grants.shtm>

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program is administered by the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and assists rural, urban and suburban fire departments throughout the United States.

Fire departments having questions regarding the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program can reach the FEMA Grant Program staff at 1-866-274-0960, or via email at usfagrants@fema.gov. For the most current information regarding these grant awards, and any of the many other USFA projects, visit www.usfa.fema.gov or [enroll in the USFA email distribution listserv](#) for the most current news releases from the USFA.

ATF Releases New Training Program to Help Schools Deal with Bomb Threats

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) today unveiled a new program to help school administrators and State and local public safety officials better prepare for bomb threats against the nation's schools. School administrators and public safety officials may obtain copies of a "Bomb Threat Response: An Interactive Planning Tool for Schools" and additional information from the website: www.threatplan.org.

November 19 is Winter Awareness Day

The National Weather Service (NWS) and SEMA set November 19 as Winter Awareness Day (this is the Wednesday one week before Thanksgiving). The 19th was selected because many citizens travel to family gatherings between Thanksgiving and Christmas. The campaign was recently mailed to EMDs and Sheriff Departments. It is posted to the SEMA Homepage at www.sema.state.mo.us The homepage also has the Fall 2003 newsletter in PDF format.

SEMA Receives CERT Training Trailer

FEMA officially presented a 6 x 10 foot CERT training trailer to SEMA on Oct. 14. Some of the items inside the training trailer include: CERT packs, materials to teach cribbing and leverage, burn pans and fire extinguishers, and first aid supplies. The trailer is designed to enhance the learning experience for the 70 participating CERT communities

The CERT trailer will be loaned to requesting CERT communities at no expense to the community. However the requesting community must pick up and return the trailer to SEMA. SEMA will restock supplies in the trailer at no expense to the requesting community. For more information contact Alysia Beaudoin, with the CERT program at 573-526-9250.